

Wildlife Restoration/Hunter Education Advisory Team



Advisory 2020-020: Mobile Public Target Ranges, Eligibility for WSFR Funding

September 23, 2020 – Revised for clarity, October 15, 2020

May Wildlife Restoration funds be used to purchase goods and services to establish, operate, and maintain a mobile public target range?

Term: *Public target range* means a specific location that—(A) is identified by a governmental agency for recreational shooting; (B) is open to the public; (C) may be supervised; and (D) may accommodate archery or rifle, pistol, or shotgun shooting. (16 U.S.C. 669a(4))

Discussion: Recruitment, retention, and reactivation (R3) activities have the objective to create new participants or increase participation rates of current or lapsed outdoor recreationists. A mobile public target range has the potential to more widely engage the public, for example, in more rural areas where population density does not support a traditional, stationary public target range. A mobile public target range can reach public audiences at Wildlife Management Areas and other events where hunting and recreational shooting sports activities align with the R3 national movement and State-specific plans.

Advisory: The purpose of the Target Practice and Marksmanship Training Support Act (P. Law 116-17) is to “facilitate the construction and expansion of public target ranges, including ranges on Federal land managed by the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management” and includes activities to acquire land for, expand, or construct public target ranges. These activities may be funded using 90/10/5 funds. The Modernizing PR Act (P. Law 116-94) focuses public target range activities to support recruiting, retaining, and reactivating hunters and recreational shooters. The Wildlife Restoration Act does not specify that a range must be limited to stationary facilities. Location and/or mobility of a public target range is not a limiting factor or a requirement for funding. Therefore, Wildlife Restoration funds that are used to purchase goods and services to establish a mobile public target range which results in new or expanded range facilities clearly meet the purpose of the Act and are considered eligible using funds at:

- 16 U.S.C. 669c(b) (Traditional Wildlife Restoration) for the up to 10% that can be allocated to be combined with Enhanced Hunter Education funds for public target ranges (90/10/5)
- 16 U.S.C. 669c(c) (Basic Hunter Education or R3) (90/10/5 or 75/25)
- 16 U.S.C. 669h-1 (Enhanced Hunter Education/R3) (90/10/5 or 75/25)

Wildlife Restoration funds that are used to purchase goods and services to operate and maintain a mobile public target range may be considered eligible using funds at:

- 16 U.S.C. 669c(b) Wildlife Restoration funds (75/25), as outlined at Advisory 2020-009
- 16 U.S.C. 669c(c) (Basic Hunter Education or R3) (75/25)
- 16 U.S.C. 669h-1 (Enhanced Hunter Education/R3) (75/25)